

I- I St. The families of foreign ministers, arriving at the seat of government, receive the first visit from those of the national ministers, as from all the residents.

2d. Members of the Legislature and of the Judiciary, independent of their offices, have a right as strangers to receive the first visit.

II. 1st. No titles being admitted here, those of foreigners give no precedence.

2d. Differences of grade among diplomatic members, give no precedence.

3d. At public ceremonies, to which the government invites the presence of foreign ministers and their families, a convenient seat or station will be provided for them, with any other strangers invited and the families of the national ministers, each taking place as they arrive, and without precedence.

4-ttu To retain the principle of equality, or of *pele-mele*, and prevent the growth of precedence out of courtesy, the members of the Executive will practice at their own houses, and recommend an adherence to the ancient usage of the country, gentlemen in mass giving precedence to the ladies in mass, in passing from one apartment where they are assembled into another. (From a Manuscript, 1803. F. VIIL, 276.)

THE EXECUTIVE.—The failure of the French Directory, and from the same cause, seems to have authorized a belief that the form, of a plurality, however promising in theory, is impracticable; \with men constituted with the ordinary passions. While the tranquil and steady tenor of our single

executive, during a course of twenty-two years of the most tempestuous times the history of the world has ever presented, gives a rational hope that this important problem is at length solved. Aided by the courts and by a cabinet, of heads of departments, originally four, but now five, with whom the President consults, either singly or altogether, he has the benefit of their wisdom and information, and produces an unity of action and direction in all the branches of the government. The excellence of this construction, of the executive power has already manifested itself here under very opposite circumstances. During the administration